

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO RUFHJA/AMEMBASSY BERLIN 1083

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

UNCLAS STATE 132099

FOLLOWING REPEAT USIA 13422 ACTION ALL PRINCIPAL USIS POSTS
AND FORT BRAGG 5 JUNE.

QUOTE

UNCLAS USIA 13422

FT. BRAGG, JFK CENTER FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE

ATTN: GEBUHR

E.O. 11652: N/-

7?3:5: WORLD CONFERENCE FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR

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REF: STATE 119806-C

1. UN-SPONSORED WORLD CONFERENCE FOR INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S YEAR (WCIWY) WILL BE HELD MEXICO CITY JUNE 19-JULY 2.

DECLARED PURPOSE OF IWY IS TO PROMOTE GENUINE EQUALITY BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN, TO INSURE FULL INVOLVEMENT OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT EFFORT OF ALL NATIONS AND TO ACHIEVE IMPROVEMENT OF CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR ALL.

2. IT IS ANTICIPATED, HOWEVER, THAT SOME CONTENTIOUS, EXTRANEUS AND POLITICIZED ISSUES WILL BE RAISED AT CONFERENCE (SEE PARAGRAPHS 3 AND 4 REFTEL). U.S. VIEW IS IT WOULD BE COUNTER TO OBJECTIVES OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR IF MAIN PURPOSE OF CONFERENCE IS SUBORDINATED TO ANOTHER ROUND OF DEBATE ON ISSUES RELATED BUT ESSENTIALLY NOT GERMANE WITHIN CONTEXT OF THE CONFERENCE.

3. IT SHOULD BE STRESSED IN ALL OUTPUT AND CONTACTS THAT SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEM OF WOMEN'S UNEQUAL STATUS CANNOT WAIT UNTIL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ARE ACHIEVED. IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT WOMEN IN INDUSTRIALLY DEVELOPED COUNTRIES KNOW ALL TOO WELL THAT DEVELOPMENT DOES NOT AUTOMATICALLY BRING EQUALITY TO WOMEN. BECAUSE CENTURIES OLD PRACTICES OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN ARE SO DEEPLY INGRAINED IN FIBER OF SOCIETY IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT EFFORTS TO ERADICATE DISCRIMINATION BECOME AN INTEGRAL PART OF EVERY SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY, NOT MADE A SECONDARY OBJECTIVE TO BE SOUGHT WHEN DEVELOPMENT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED.

4. U.S. G. HOPES TO SUPPORT WORLD PLAN OF ACTION WHICH LAYS OUT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL OBJECTIVES FOR ACHIEVING IWY GOALS.

5. UN SECRETARY-GENERAL KURT WALDHEIM PROCLAIMED ON DECEMBER 10, 1974: "DESPITE THE ADVANCE OF THE PAST 30 YEARS, DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN REMAINS A PERVASIVE FACT OF LIFE IN MANY COUNTRIES AND THIS REPRESENTS A MAJOR OBSTACLE TO REAL SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL PROGRESS IN THE WORLD."

6. UN CONFERENCE WILL CONSIST OF GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES AND ACCREDITED OBSERVERS FROM NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS
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HAVING CONSULTATIVE STATUS WITH ECOSOC. TO MEET NEEDS OF INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS NOT HAVING CONSULTATIVE STATUS INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR TRIBUNE WILL BE HELD SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH WCIWY IN NATIONAL MEDICAL CENTER CONVENTION AREA IN MEXICO CITY. TRIBUNE WILL USE AUDIOVISUAL MATERIAL AS WELL AS SPEAKERS, CROSS-CULTURAL DIALOGUE AND DAILY BRIEFINGS IN ITS PROGRAM. KEOGH UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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